

SUPPORTING GOLD STAR
MOTHERS DAY

SPEECH OF

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2010

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my support in recognition of Gold Star Mothers Day, which is celebrated the last Sunday of September. These mothers have given the supreme sacrifice for their country: they have lost a son or daughter serving in the Armed Forces. But instead of mourning alone, these courageous women have taken their personal loss and used it to help others in the same situation.

Several weeks ago, I hosted the Congressional Black Caucus Annual Legislative Conference, along with Rep. CORRINE BROWN of Florida and Rep. SANFORD BISHOP of Georgia. At that conference, we were honored to have here with us Ms. Aseneth Blackwell, a former President of the Gold Star Wives of America, a sister organization of the Gold Star Mothers. Both members of these organizations have lost loved ones in service for their country.

These honorable women provide support to those who may not know who to turn to. They provide a listening ear and sympathetic voice to the bereaved, because they have been there too. They assist veteran's families in understanding and obtaining the benefits provided by the government for veteran's families. And they make sure that the Nation never forgets those sacrifices made by the men and women of the Armed Forces.

My condolences go out to any family member that has lost a spouse, a child, or a parent in the service of their country. That is why I am proud to speak today on behalf of this bill that recognizes the sacrifice made by mothers of this country, by observing Gold Star Mothers Day. I also commend President Obama for his proclamation on September 24th, asking the public to observe this special day with them.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 17, 2010

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam Speaker, I regret that I was unable to participate in a series of votes on the floor of the House of Representatives on Tuesday, November, 16, 2010.

Had I been present to vote on rollcall No. 569, on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 716, I would have voted "aye" on the question.

Had I been present to vote on rollcall No. 570, on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 1475, I would have voted "aye" on the question.

Had I been present to vote on rollcall No. 571, on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 1428, I would have voted "aye" on the question.

CONGRATULATING JEANNA
WALKER**HON. FRED UPTON**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 17, 2010

Mr. UPTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Portage Northern High School Library Media Center and Media Center Specialist Jeanna Walker for being selected by the American Association of School Libraries as the most outstanding library program in the State of Michigan and one of the top 35 programs in the nation.

The media center was remodeled last summer to fully envision the goal of delivering 21st century skills to both students and teachers. With a media classroom and three classroom areas all equipped with the technology-enhanced classroom model, the media center and learning commons are overflowing with teaching and learning on a daily basis. The media center is an active learning environment for the student population and is being used by approximately 4,000 students per week.

The media center's cutting-edge technology gives students the opportunity to work with and learn from off campus groups and experiences. With the help of social studies teacher Stacie Phillips, Jeanna Walker teamed with Western Michigan University's Haworth College of Business to bring online collaborative tools to Portage Northern American history classes. Also, access to live video conference capability gave students the ability to watch an autopsy through the Columbus Center for Science and Industry.

In honor of this national recognition, the media center will be featured on the American Association of School Libraries Vision Tour, an initiative by the association's President, Dr. Nancy Everhart, to visit school media centers across the United States in order to provide the public with examples of what exceptional school media centers offer students and communities.

On behalf of all residents of southwest Michigan, congratulations again to the Portage Northern High School Library Media Center, Media Specialist Jeanna Walker, and the entire Portage Community on this worthy achievement. Go Huskies!

HONORING DONNA C. NASH

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 17, 2010

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Donna C. Nash. Donna has served as Platte County Collector since 1982 and will be retiring from office on February 28, 2011.

Since first being appointed to office by Governor Kit Bond in 1982, Donna has been elected as Platte County Collector seven times. During her time in this role, she has sought to provide Platte County the technology and leadership needed to become a top-tier county in Missouri. Her office was the first in Missouri to allow taxpayers to pay their taxes via credit card or online and print their receipt online. She has also provided leadership as the first

female President of the Missouri County Collectors Association as well as being involved with the Missouri Association of Counties, the National Association of Collectors, the Treasurers and Finance Officers, and the National Association of Counties. She has generously donated her time to such causes as the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Red Cross, among many other organizations she has supported through the years. I personally would like to thank Donna for her support and insight during my time in office and for being the first Platte County official to endorse me when I first ran for Congress in 2000.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me, her husband Karlton, their two children, and three grandchildren, in commending Donna C. Nash for her accomplishments and for her efforts put forth in serving Platte County, Missouri.

IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF
ROBERT RICE AND GARY RICE
OF LAKEWOOD, OHIO**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 17, 2010

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Robert Rice and his son Gary of Lakewood, Ohio, for their longtime service on behalf of our community and our nation.

Robert Rice, a devoted family man, World War II veteran, dedicated teacher, composer, musician and civic activist has touched the lives of many throughout our community as a music teacher in the Lakewood Public Schools until his retirement in 1983. His wife, the late Betty Rice, was also musically gifted. Together they raised their son Gary with an abiding appreciation for the arts, music, and public service.

Gary Rice followed in his father's path and became a teacher and a musician. Despite being born with hearing and speech impediments, Gary became a talented vocalist and musician, performing numerous times on stage throughout Greater Cleveland. Both Robert and Gary made a profound impact upon the lives of countless students, colleagues and parents. To this day, Robert and Gary continue to share their passion for music by tutoring students, composing, and performing for various schools, senior organizations and veterans groups throughout the Greater Cleveland area. Robert and Gary recently completed an original composition, a march in honor of United States' veterans entitled "The American Veterans' Last Salute March." It has already been performed on several occasions.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of Robert Rice and his son Gary for their service to our community and our country. Their strong father-son bond is reflected through their shared love of music and shared spirit of volunteerism. Their work and passion brings music, inspiration and joy into the lives of countless individuals—young and old—throughout our community.